

The Boston Post Cane



On August 2, 1909, Mr. Edwin A. Gozier, Publisher of The Boston Post, the most successful newspaper of the 19th century in Boston, gave the Board of Selectmen in 700 towns (no cities) in New England a cane of ebony imported from Africa topped with an ornate engraved head of 14 karat gold. This cane was to be presented, with the compliments of The Boston Post, to the oldest citizen of the town. It was to be in their possession until the appropriate time when it would be given to the next oldest citizen of the town. The cane would belong to the town and not to the person or family who received it.

. North Reading was a recipient of this cane and the award is being re-established this year. Although the original cane has been lost, it has been replaced by a replica cane, as well as a pin and certificate. The Boston Post Cane Award will be presented to the oldest person in North Reading. The only requirement is that the person must have been a resident of North Reading for at least 25 years. The presentation will occur in the fall and the Award will remain in the possession of him or her as long as they continue to live in North Reading. This is truly an honor and we look forward to making the presentation.

Angela Mauceri, representing the Boston Post Cane Award Committee